

Appl. No.: 10/783,862
Amendment And Response to Office Action

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Docket No.: 085804 . 015401
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REMARKS

Claims 1 to 31 are the pending claims being examined in the application, of which Claims 1, 12, 23, 28 to 31 are the independent claims. Claims 1, 7, 12 and 23 are being amended, and Claims 28 to 31 are being added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication in the Office Action that Claims 12 to 22 and 27 are allowed.

The only matter raised in the Office Action is a rejection of Claims 1 to 11 and 23 to 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 101. With regard to Claims 1 to 11, the Office Action indicates that a system is being claimed, and alleges that a system is generally defined "as a functionally related group of components." The Office Action contends that the "search region", "result region" and "connection indicator" recited in Claims 1 to 11 and 23 to 26 contain information and do not necessarily perform a function, and concludes that these fields are therefore non-functional descriptive material.

Without conceding the correctness of the rejection, Claims 1, 7 and 23 are being amended even more clearly recite functionality of, and relationship between, components of the claimed graphical user interface. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1 to 11 and 23 to 26 are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the indication of allowable subject matter, new Claims 28 to 31 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

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The Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance therefore be issued in this case. Should matters remain which the Examiner believes could be resolved in a further telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the Applicant's undersigned attorney.

In this regard, Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached by phone in California (Pacific Standard Time) at (714) 708-6500. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the below-listed address.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fee in connection with the submission of this paper, any additional fees which may be required, now or in the future, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 50-2638. Please ensure that the Attorney Docket Number is referred when charging any payments or credits for this case.

Respectfully submitted,


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